

CROP WEATHER REPORT

Issue: 05-06 (ISSN 0896-4734)
Released: 2:00 p.m., MDT, April 18, 2005
For Week Ending: April 17, 2005

ISSUED: WEEKLY: Apr-Oct
MONTHLY: Nov-Mar

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Agricultural Summary

There were 5.0 days suitable for field work during the week. Currently, field work is 36% well underway, 27% just started and 37% haven’t started spring field tillage work yet.

Most of Montana encountered high temperatures in the lower 70s. Hardin had the high temperature during the week at 80 degrees. The lows for the State were mainly in the lower to mid 20s. Wisdom had the low temperature of 5 degrees. There was moderate to heavy precipitation during the week in some areas. The wet spot for the State last week was Harlem with 1.72 inches of moisture. Some areas of the State experienced high winds last week.

The weather outlook for the week of April 18 through 24 is for near to above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation for the State.

Soil Moisture Condition Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Topsoil Moisture				
Very Short	11	17	26	17
Short	33	33	32	31
Adequate	54	47	39	49
Surplus	2	3	3	3
Subsoil Moisture				
Very Short	38	40	34	34
Short	39	36	36	37
Adequate	22	23	29	28
Surplus	1	1	1	1

Field Work Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Days Suitable for Field Work				
Days	5.0	5.0	5.8	4.0
Field Tillage Work in Progress				
None	37	57	23	45
Just Started	27	29	24	28
Well Underway	36	14	53	27

Field Crops Report

The State received moderate to heavy precipitation in selected areas. Winter wheat is mostly out of dormancy with only 1 percent still dormant which is the same as last year. Winter wheat conditions improved slightly from last week. Durum wheat planting is under way with 7 percent planted compared with last year’s 4 percent. Corn planting has started with 5 percent planted, while 3 percent of the barley crop has emerged. Small grain planting is underway in selected areas and is behind last year’s crop progress.

Crop Condition Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Winter Wheat - Condition				
Very Poor	2	2	12	10
Poor	7	7	16	14
Fair	32	33	40	38
Good	45	47	28	33
Excellent	14	11	4	5

Crop Progress Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Winter Wheat - Spring Stages				
Still Dormant	1	6	1	n/a
Greening	11	53	17	n/a
Green and Growing	88	41	82	n/a
Barley				
Planted	24	11	43	18
Emerged	3	n/a	12	n/a
Oats				
Planted	13	7	23	10
Spring Wheat				
Planted	16	6	25	11
Corn				
Planted	5	n/a	12	4
Durum Wheat				
Planted	7	0	4	1

Livestock Report

Eighty-four percent of the pastures are open for grazing compared to last year’s rating of 73 percent open. Calving and lambing are 81 percent and 67 percent complete, respectively, compared to last year’s 81 percent for cattle and 53 percent for sheep.

Range and Pasture Feed Condition

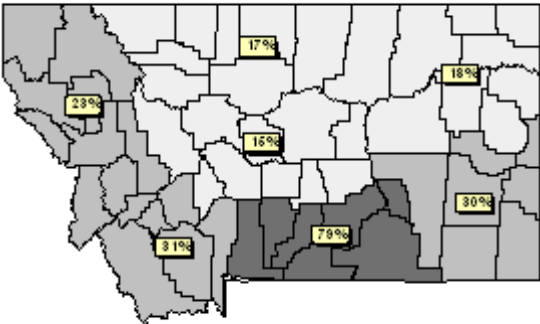
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Very Poor	18	22	20	n/a
Poor	34	34	24	n/a
Fair	34	30	37	n/a
Good	12	12	16	n/a
Excellent	2	2	3	n/a

Livestock Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Livestock Grazing				
Open	84	76	73	n/a
Difficult	7	9	5	n/a
Closed	9	15	22	n/a
Receiving Supplemental Feed				
Cattle	82	90	79	n/a
Sheep and Lambs	79	85	73	n/a
Calving Completed	81	72	81	82
Lambing Completed	67	57	53	60

Barley Planted

by District for week ending April 17, 2005



THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT <http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt/>

Compiled and Summarized by:
Montana Agricultural Statistics Service

In conjunction with:
MSU Extension Agents

USDA County Service Centers
National Weather Service

Weather Information Table For Week Ending 6:00 p.m. MDT, April 16, 2005 1/

STATION	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION						
	PAST WEEK			Past Week	April 1, 2005 to Date			October 1, 2004 to Date		
	High	Low	Avg.		Total 2/	Normal 3/	%	Total 2/	Normal 3/	%
	Degrees				In.	Inches		Normal	Inches	
NORTHWEST										
Drummond	72	19	40	0.55	0.63	0.52	121	3.14	5.03	62
Hamilton	72	28	44	0.32	0.61	0.56	109	4.03	6.47	62
Kalispell	66	25	41	0.19	0.44	0.65	68	5.78	8.44	68
Libby	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Missoula	70	26	42	0.79	1.06	0.58	183	4.13	6.31	65
Polson	67	30	43	0.95	1.36	0.71	192	5.92	7.14	83
Superior	72	27	43	0.67	0.94	0.63	149	6.01	8.94	67
Thompson Falls	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
West Glacier	63	26	40	1.27	1.49	0.95	157	18.43	16.52	112
NORTH CENTRAL										
Chester	69	21	43	0.06	0.06	0.38	16	2.28	2.76	83
Choteau	69	21	43	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Conrad	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Cut Bank	67	25	42	0.36	0.37	0.48	77	1.64	2.92	56
Ft. Benton	72	22	44	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Gold Butte	70	21	44	0.45	0.45	0.59	76	3.50	3.71	94
Harlem	78	23	48	0.39	1.72	0.39	441	4.44	2.85	156
Havre	72	22	46	0.02	0.33	0.46	72	1.92	3.57	54
Malta	73	26	49	0.99	1.11	0.48	231	3.48	3.43	101
Shelby	71	23	44	0.31	0.31	0.40	78	3.58	2.93	122
Turner	71	25	46	0.15	0.20	0.29	69	2.28	2.54	90
Valier	67	27	43	0.75	0.75	0.49	153	2.84	2.80	101
NORTHEAST										
Culbertson	73	22	48	0.00	0.00	0.49	0	2.26	3.17	71
Glasgow	74	26	48	0.27	1.08	0.40	270	3.22	2.95	109
Glendive	73	29	52	0.03	0.22	0.62	35	3.73	3.82	98
Jordan	74	22	47	0.39	1.09	0.52	210	2.98	3.83	78
Plentywood	71	23	46	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Scobey	72	17	46	0.00	0.00	0.44	0	1.81	2.70	67
Sidney	73	26	49	0.00	0.00	0.57	0	3.27	4.04	81
Wolf Point	74	22	47	0.11	0.36	0.42	86	1.20	3.06	39
CENTRAL										
Cascade	65	17	40	0.22	0.22	0.63	35	4.60	4.14	111
Flatwillow	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Great Falls	69	26	45	0.44	0.48	0.75	64	3.23	5.14	63
Harlowton	74	19	47	0.00	0.04	0.69	6	2.50	4.04	62
Helena	72	27	46	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Lewistown	73	26	44	0.05	0.38	0.74	51	3.57	5.99	60
Melstone	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Roundup	77	27	50	0.02	1.57	0.68	231	4.95	3.94	126
Stanford	70	27	45	0.03	0.03	0.82	4	3.66	5.26	70
White Sulphur Spr	68	20	43	0.21	0.21	0.63	33	2.33	4.22	55
SOUTHWEST										
Anaconda	63	14	39	0.23	0.32	0.62	52	4.08	5.01	81
Belgrade	73	17	44	0.01	0.56	0.75	75	3.64	5.40	67
Bozeman MSU	74	22	45	0.00	0.85	1.10	77	6.53	7.54	87
Butte	65	16	39	0.28	0.37	0.54	69	2.15	4.29	50
Dillon	67	20	42	0.02	0.58	0.65	89	2.26	3.52	64
Ennis	70	22	46	0.06	0.56	0.69	81	3.39	4.58	74
Wisdom	58	5	34	0.42	0.57	0.52	110	3.01	4.57	66
SOUTH CENTRAL										
Billings	76	29	50	0.02	0.60	0.93	65	3.71	6.12	61
Gardiner	69	26	46	0.00	0.10	0.33	30	3.62	3.50	103
Hardin	80	26	51	0.05	1.05	0.73	144	3.67	4.72	78
Livingston	73	20	44	0.04	0.60	0.84	71	4.42	5.31	83
Rapelje	74	27	50	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Red Lodge	69	22	45	0.00	0.28	1.54	18	6.14	10.73	57
SOUTHEAST										
Baker	71	24	45	0.11	0.48	0.75	64	3.94	4.49	88
Broadus	76	27	49	0.01	0.43	0.83	52	2.74	4.93	56
Ekalaka	69	21	45	0.04	0.44	0.99	44	4.05	5.85	69
Miles City	76	27	50	0.18	0.65	0.75	87	3.08	4.27	72

1/ Data from National Weather Service. 2/ May be revised weekly. 3/ For period 1971-2000. M-More than 25% of reporting days are missing.

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